

A Year of Commemoration



2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Whereas, the territorial period in Idaho lasted for 27 years, during which time the geographical boundaries and the political and economic foundations for the future State of Idaho were established; and

Whereas, the territorial period witnessed some of Idaho's most significant historical events that still impact the lives of Idahoans today,

Therefore, I, C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim March 4, 2013 to be Idaho Territorial Day.

Getting Territorial

On the morning of March 4, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln (Idaho has a county named for him) signed a congressional act creating Idaho Territory.

On July 3, 1890, President Benjamin Harrison (Idaho has a city and a street in Boise named for him) signed a congressional act establishing Idaho as the 43rd state.

The 27-year territorial era between those two presidential signatures was perhaps the most significant quarter century in Idaho's history, shaping who we are as a state today.

In 2012, Governor Butch Otter named the Idaho State Historical Society the lead state agency for the sesquicentennial, and asked the Society to create a plan to commemorate the anniversary. It was a natural request; the Historical Society offers essential services that provide a better understanding of Idaho's unique history and the significant role history plays in leading to a shared vision of the future. The Society's staff and trustees developed a plan that would invite grassroots participation, encourage the involvement of other state agencies, and launch the Historical Society on one of its most ambitious years, involving every member of the staff in a diversity of programs and events to help Idahoans better understand the significance of the territorial period.

The Society developed a framework for communities and organizations to create programs at the local level, and offered a toolkit as a resource to assist in those grassroots commemorations. The on-line toolkit provided free marketing materials,

including the Idaho at 150 logo that the Society designed. It also contained a sample press release, a proclamation template, free use of photographic images from the territorial period, and information on territorial history.

From Lewiston (where citizens reconstructed the territory's original capitol as a lasting legacy of the sesquicentennial) to Pocatello (where more than 700 people turned out on March 4, 2013 to listen to speakers discuss the significance of territorial history) Idahoans commemorated their 150th anniversary.

"The sesquicentennial is an opportunity to reflect on what makes Idaho special," Governor Otter noted in a ceremony in his office in March 2012 announcing the commemoration. "I encourage all Idahoans to join community and regional efforts to explore and appreciate the territorial roots of today's Idaho, and to create lasting legacies for the future."

What follows are some of the ways the Idaho State Historical Society, established just 18 years after Idaho became a territory, helped to lead the state in that eventful commemoration. It turned out to be one of the most rewarding years in the Society's 132-year existence.



Nancy and David Leroy and Governor Otter in the Governor's office, March 2012, when Governor Otter announced the Idaho territorial sesquicentennial and named the State Historical Society as lead state agency for the commemoration.

Message from the Executive Director

I am humbled and very grateful as I share this year's accomplishments of the Idaho State Historical Society and its *community*. I emphasize community here, because it was truly a collective effort and extraordinary partnership of state agencies, executive, legislative, and judicial offices, counties, cities, tribes, museums, foundations, donors, sponsors, volunteers, staff, trustees, and many other valued stakeholders. Commemorating the territorial sesquicentennial gave Idaho history an important voice. By engaging many organizations and people in this initiative, grassroots efforts flourished throughout the state, resulting in an energy and enthusiasm for our history we could not have imagined, and lasting legacy projects to inspire and educate for years to come.

The Idaho State Historical Society "Get Territorial: Idaho at 150" legacy projects noted in this report reflect programs advancing knowledge of Idaho history and serving a broader social purpose. Our State Historical Museum teaches a research process, enabling students to hone their critical thinking skills. The Old Idaho Penitentiary and its programs articulate the relationship between behavior and freedom, thus enhancing an understanding of social justice. The Idaho State Archives provides the public with vital and transparent information through original documents, including photographs, maps, journals, and government records. Programs of our State Historic Preservation Office increase stewardship of Idaho's archeological sites, buildings, and historic landscapes.

The Idaho State Historical Society preserves and promotes Idaho history. History creates an informed citizenry, contributes to economic vitality, and instills a sense of place and community pride. The vision of empowering Idahoans to learn about our past and help craft our future is powerful; we are proud to be part of making that future remarkable.

Message from the Chair

This has been an extraordinary year for ISHS. In addition to our daily tasks of preserving and interpreting Idaho's history for all Idahoans, Governor Otter asked ISHS to coordinate the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of Idaho Territory. We devote this annual report to that effort.

We began with a gala ceremony on the capitol steps. During the year we produced exhibits, created a special edition of *Idaho Landscapes*, digitized territorial newspapers, and dedicated the Merle Wells Research Center. The year ended by opening a permanent exhibit of the largest collection of Lincoln artifacts west of the Mississippi, donated to the people of Idaho by David and Nancy Leroy.

But the story of the sesquicentennial goes beyond ISHS. The real story is how Idahoans made this commemoration a success. That effort began two years ago when Idaho residents nominated over 600 people, places, and events that make Idaho unique. This led to the "Essential Idaho" exhibit, a grassroots re-assemblage of our past highlighting 150 of the best of those nominations. Regional commemorations occurred in eastern Idaho where over 700 people came out for kickoff festivities at Fort Hall. In Lewiston, the dedicatory audience for the First Territorial Capitol replica filled a city park. Boiseans commemorated their own 150th birthday throughout the year.

More than 200 Idaho teachers participated in Idaho Humanities Council teacher workshops on territorial history. Nearly 200 historians, archeologists, planners, and preservationists came together for the three-day Heritage Conference.

The variety of events and number of people participating reflected the diversity and ingenuity that characterizes our state. It has been exhilarating to see the degree to which our history is valued by Idahoans.



*Janet L. Gallimore
Executive Director*



*Tom Blanchard, Chair
Idaho State Historical Society
Board of Trustees*

Idaho at 150 Kickoff on the Capitol Steps

More than 1,500 people attended the grand kickoff of Idaho's commemoration of the territory on March 4, 2013 on the capitol steps in Boise. All members of the legislature and Idaho's Supreme Court joined with other dignitaries to launch the sesquicentennial. Former Lieutenant Governor David Leroy served as Master of Ceremonies for an event of music and reflection. Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter launched the sesquicentennial, President Abraham Lincoln (in the guise of Steve Holgate) welcomed people of the new territory to the American union, Father Jesus Camacho of St. Mary's Parish in Boise and Josiah Pinkham of the Nez Perce Tribe offered poignant messages. President Barack Obama and Boise Mayor David Bieter sent congratulatory letters. Senator Brent Hill, President Pro Tempore, and Representative Scott Bedke, Speaker of the House, read a legislative resolution. The Shoshone-Paiute Sweet Sage Drum Group opened and closed the ceremony, which also featured a performance by the Horizon Explorers in Song, and a soaring rendition of "American the Beautiful" by Senator Cherie Buckner-Webb.

Also on Territorial Day, the legislature announced the naming of the Abraham Lincoln Auditorium in the capitol. The dedication of the 400-seat auditorium took place immediately following the capitol steps ceremony. The auditorium features a Lincoln exhibit, along with a plaque containing a quote from Lincoln: "There is both a power and magic in public opinion. To that let us now appeal."

Due to the gracious sponsorship of KTVB Channel 7 and Idaho Public Television, the capitol steps event enjoyed outstanding exposure. Televised programming of the two-hour event reached 1.9 million people in Idaho, Utah, and Washington, generating more than \$355,000 in earned media coverage.



Above: Horizon Explorers in Song gather on the capitol steps in preparation for performing at the Idaho at 150 kickoff.

Left: Shoshone-Paiute Sweet Sage Drum Group.

Below: Lewis, Clark, and Sacajawea attended the festivities.



Right: Governor and Mrs. Otter and Josiah Pinkham.

Merle W. Wells Research Center

Merle W. Wells began his long service to the Idaho State Historical Society as a volunteer in the 1940s. He joined the staff in 1956, serving at various times as Archivist, State Historian, Director, and State Historic Preservation Officer. Wells transformed the Historical Society, establishing the State Archives, State Historic Preservation Office, state highway historical marker program, and *Idaho Yesterdays*, the Society's scholarly journal.

Merle Wells had an incomparable knowledge of Idaho. His many publications laid the foundation for Idaho historians who followed. No historian has ever done more to interpret Idaho's territorial period.

It was therefore fitting that the Historical Society launched the commemoration of the territorial sesquicentennial on March 7, 2012 with a gala reception to name the research facility at Idaho State Archives the Merle W. Wells Research Center. Merle began to actively amass materials for what has become one of the state's distinguished research facilities. He

often drove the Society's Ford station wagon to the far corners of Idaho to collect materials. The Research Center is testimony to Wells's tireless efforts to preserve Idaho history. Those collections form the foundation for today's Idaho State Archives, the state's outstanding repository for those studying Idaho history.



Above: A few of the 150 attendees at the dedication of the Wells Research Center.

Right: The bike former State Historian Merle Wells rode nearly every day, exhibited at the dedication.



Digitization of Territorial Newspapers

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) awarded the Idaho State Historical Society a \$277,000 grant to begin digitizing the Society's rich collection of historic newspapers from around the state. When completed in two years, the first 100,000 pages of Idaho news published between 1864 and 1922 will be available to the public online, free of charge. Better yet, the entire collection will be keyword searchable.

The NEH award is part of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a long-term partnership between the NEH and the Library of Congress to provide an internet-based, searchable database of all U.S. newspapers published before 1922. Supported by the NEH, this digital resource will be permanently maintained at the Library of Congress. The NEH grant program will fund the contribution of content from, eventually, all U.S. states and territories.

A committee of statewide educators, historians, special-collections librarians, and the trustees of the Idaho State Historical Society will select the first Idaho newspapers to be digitized. Titles from each of the state's seven judicial districts will be chosen.

Montana Historical Society, which was awarded its second, two-year NDNP grant this year, will provide technical assistance to ISHS.

An estimated 500,000 pages of news was published in Idaho before 1922. This year's award will digitize the first 20 percent of that total.



ISHS photo, #398-e

Interior of the Boise Citizen newspaper.

“Essential Idaho: 150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique”

“The Essential Idaho exhibit is one of the best museum exhibits I have ever seen. I am really interested in Idaho history and the exhibit included a lot of info I had never seen before. The stuff was well and entertainingly presented.”

Robert P., Moscow, TripAdvisor review, August 20, 2013



To commemorate the 150th anniversary of Idaho, the State Historical Society created the largest exhibit it has ever undertaken, “Essential Idaho: 150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique.” The exhibit featured rare artifacts from around the state, hands-on learning stations, and compelling stories. Exhibit planning began in 2010. In 2011, ISHS solicited nominations from Idaho residents of the people, places, and events that shaped our state. Working with a team of Idaho historians, the Society’s staff winnowed down the 600 nominations to 150 topics. All 44 counties and Idaho’s five tribes were represented.



“Essential Idaho” included the feathered headdress of Lemhi Shoshoni Chief Tendoy; personal items from Chinese pioneer Polly Bemis; Boise founder Pinkney Lugenbeel’s sword; and Harmon Killebrew’s Washington Senators jersey. The artifacts came from more than 70 lenders throughout the state. “Essential Idaho was a testament to every county historical society that keeps our history,” noted Museum Director Jody Ochoa.

The exhibit told stories of events that shaped Idaho history and also those that reverberated across the nation, like the Fire of 1910, the Teton Dam Disaster, and Ruby Ridge. Kids could dress up as Lewis and Clark, build their own state capitol, attempt Evel Knievel’s jump of the Snake River Canyon, and pose inside a giant baked potato.



Some visitors commented on being surprised to discover how interesting Idaho history can be. Others enjoyed verifying what they already knew about Idaho’s rich culture, gaining a deeper understanding of its many nuances. Seeing artifacts from around the state, many that had never been exhibited before, struck a chord in many. And visitors of all ages left with the feeling that Idaho history is not only relevant to today, but can also be fun.

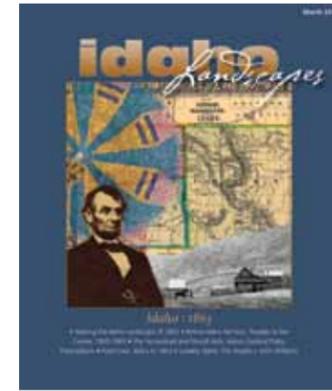
“Essential Idaho” ran from March 5 through December 31, 2013, and was made possible through the generous contributions of more than 70 corporations, foundations, and businesses.

Top and lower right: Views of the Essential Idaho exhibit.

Above: Lucy Morfit enjoys the giant potato at the Essential Idaho exhibit; Mrs. Otter and the Governor meet with descendants of the Pinkney Lugenbeel family, who loaned materials relating to early Boise for the exhibit.



Idaho Landscapes: Idaho in 1863



Some of the state’s outstanding historians contributed articles to a special commemorative issue of *Idaho Landscapes*, entitled *Idaho in 1863*. The team of writers from around the state brought new perspectives and interpretations to Idaho’s territorial period, representing some of the finest writing ever done on territorial Idaho. Their stories were encased in a full-color, richly illustrated journal published jointly by ISHS, the University of Idaho, and Idaho State University.

The authors reflected on the landscape encountered by Idahoans in 1863; the difficult relations between Idaho’s Indians, who had lived here for millennia, and newcomers; the impact of federal policies on Idaho’s early development; the diversity of characters who made up early Idaho; and that time in 1863-64 when Idaho was, literally, a lawless territory.

Idaho Landscapes brought to readers the latest scholarship on one of the most significant eras in Idaho history.



ISHS photo, #69-17-1

Idaho’s first capitol was the site of Idaho Territory’s official business, meetings, and ceremonies from 1863-1865. As a lasting legacy of the Idaho at 150 commemoration, the citizens of Lewiston constructed a full-sized, authentic replica of Idaho’s original capitol, which now serves as an interpretive center in Lewiston.

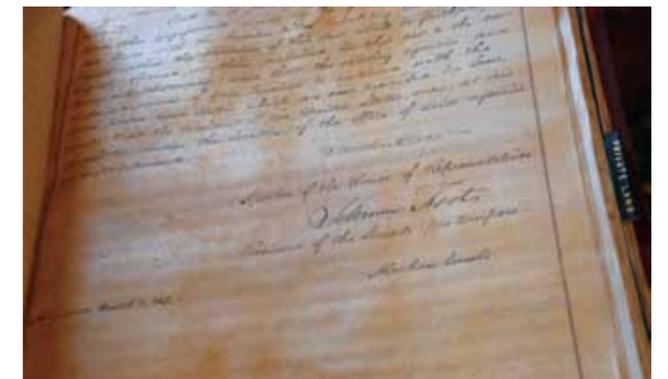
Idaho’s Original Territorial Document

Idaho senators Mike Crapo and Jim Risch and the Archivist of the United States invited ISHS Executive Director Janet Gallimore and State Archaeologist Ken Reid to share a special occasion in the President’s Room at the national capitol on February 26, 2013. The senators were in the process of filming a special presentation to be aired to Idahoans on territorial day, March 4. And they were about to show off one of the National Archives’ prized documents: the original copy of the Idaho Territorial Act, signed by President Abraham Lincoln.

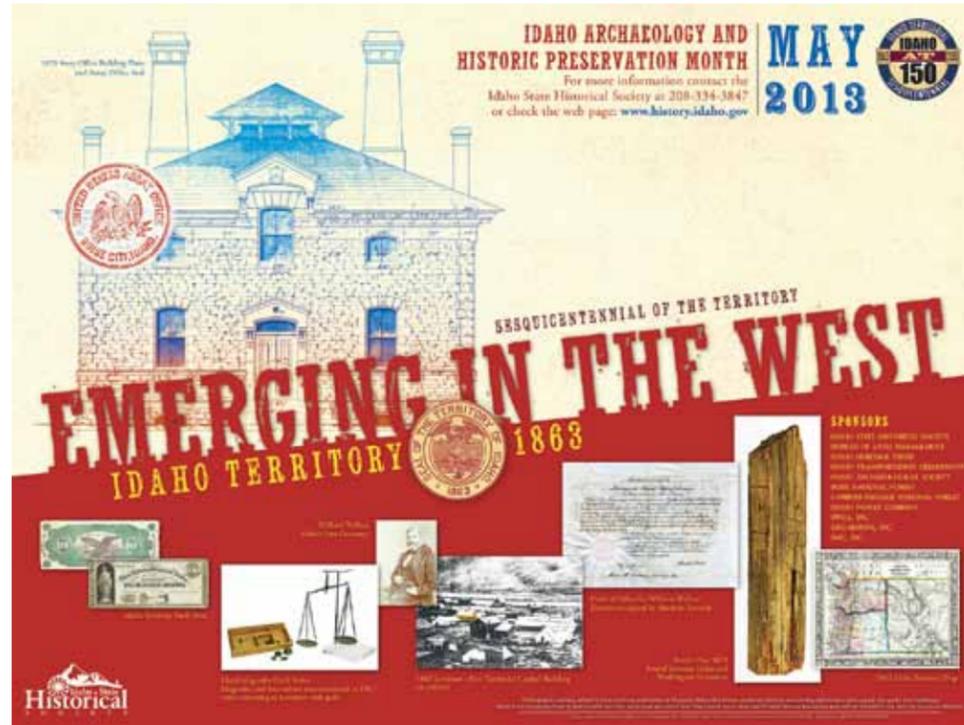


The President’s Room is one of the most ornate in the capitol, richly adorned with fresco paintings by Italian artist Constantino Brumidi. The room was completed in 1859 as part of the capitol’s expansion. It was first used by President James Buchanan on March 4, 1861, at a time of great peril for the nation, after several southern states had left the Union, and a month before the Civil War began. The country was still at war in March 1865 when President Abraham Lincoln visited the President’s Room to sign the usual flurry of end-of-session legislation, a month before his assassination.

At the time of the staff’s visit, ISHS was in the final design stages of the “Abraham Lincoln: His Legacy in Idaho” exhibition. Knowing that the State Historical Society would soon provide Idahoans access to this incredible national story proved to be a moving inspiration.



Executive Director Janet Gallimore and Senator Mike Crapo with the Idaho Territorial Act—with President Abraham Lincoln’s signature—at a ceremony in the nation’s capitol.



Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month



Above: William Wallace served as Idaho's first territorial governor, and also its first delegate to Congress. Right: Among the prized collections at the Idaho State Historical Society are the scales Lloyd Magruder used to measure transactions while provisioning miners. In October 1863, Magruder was brutally murdered in northern Idaho. The three murderers were later tried, convicted, and executed in Idaho's first criminal case.

Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month marked its 25th anniversary in May 2013. And ISHS marked that significant milestone by devoting 2013 activities to the theme "Emerging in the West: Idaho Territory 1863."

Each May, during Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month, the Society's State Historic Preservation Office organizes and promotes statewide opportunities for Idahoans to learn more about Idaho archaeology, history, and historic preservation. A statewide celebration of Idaho's culture, the 2013 event fittingly focused on the 150th anniversary of Idaho Territory. Among dozens of programs featured in every part of the state, residents of Idaho City could take a walking tour featuring buildings from the territorial era. Challis sponsored a program on the "Idaho Territorial Experience," while Meridian had one on "Lincoln and Idaho." Attendees to a presentation in Mountain Home learned about rock types used in the construction of historic buildings.

ISHS staff made presentations throughout the state on topics ranging from homesteading during the territorial period, to Idaho's territorial architecture, to the invention of modern Idaho during the territorial era.



Bear River Battlefield Protection

Just weeks before President Lincoln signed the act creating Idaho, what would soon become the nation's newest territory witnessed one of America's bloodiest massacres when California Volunteers engaged Shoshone Indians just outside of Franklin. What started as a battle soon turned into a slaughter, resulting in the deaths of between 225 and 400 Shoshones, as well as 23 soldiers.

Historical anniversaries provide a time for contemplation. Not everything in our past should be celebrated. But we can reflect upon the past as we commemorate. Recognizing the territorial sesquicentennial as such an educational opportunity, ISHS submitted a proposal to the American Battlefield Protection program to undertake an archaeological survey to document the Bear River Massacre National Historic Landmark.

With the exception of 27 acres recently acquired by the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation, the 1,700-acre site is privately owned, which complicates preservation efforts there. In the fall of 2013, the National Park Service announced that ISHS had been awarded a \$55,000 grant to survey and map this significant location, the first step in any effort to preserve and interpret the site.

Under the direction of State Archaeologist Ken Reid, the project will determine the battlefield's boundaries, including the footprint of 68 Shoshone winter lodges that came under attack. The Society will work closely with the Tribe and local residents on this complex project, made even more difficult with the passage of time, including years of grazing and farming. The Bear River itself has meandered through several different channels over those years.

Though the work of unraveling the battlefield boundaries will be time consuming, it is exceedingly important. "In terms of long-term intercultural relationships, nothing compares to what happened at Bear River," Reid noted. Seconded Jon Jarvis, Director of the National Park Service, "We are proud to support projects like this that safeguard and preserve American battlefields."



Above: ISHS Executive Director Janet Gallimore and Jason Walker, Chair of the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation, spoke at the event commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Bear River Massacre.

Below: The Bear River battlefield site in southeast Idaho.





Above: William Wallace and George Shoup, Idaho's first and last territorial governors, from the Herbert Collins images in the "Early Governors of Idaho" exhibit.

"Early Governors of Idaho" and "Those Who Served"

In 1911, the legislature voted an appropriation to paint the portraits of Idaho's territorial and state governors. Herbert A. Collins—who would have a significant artistic career in the Midwest, Idaho, and California—won the contract. As a result, Collins painted 20 governors' portraits that year. Now a part of the ISHS permanent collection, these beautiful oil paintings were featured as part of the "Early Governors in Idaho" exhibit at the capitol in 2013.

Viewers learned about Territorial Governor Caleb Lyon's embezzlement of \$46,000 when he left Idaho. David Ballard, on the other hand, served much of his time without pay. A Republican—as were all of Idaho's early territorial governors—Ballard ran afoul of a Democratic legislature that proved so threatening the governor had to summon federal troops for protection. John Irwin hardly had that problem. His only issue was how to get out of Idaho. Upon being appointed governor, he visited the territory briefly and promptly left, serving a three-week term. Thomas Bennett served four years, but longed to move to Washington, D.C. He ran unsuccessfully for territorial delegate to Congress. After he lost, he simply re-tabulated the votes and declared himself the winner. He managed to serve most of a term before Congress discovered the shenanigan and unseated him.

On the capitol's third floor, another exhibit paid homage to Idaho's veterans. Featuring the stories of men and women from the territorial era to the present, "Those Who Served" told of Idahoans' service to their country.

From the time of the first army unit to pass through Idaho—known as the Lewis and Clark Expedition—through combat in Iraq and Afghanistan, the exhibit details the role of the military in Idaho's development, including humanitarian efforts in disasters ranging from the 1910 fires to the Teton Flood. The exhibit also features all 35 Idaho Medal of Honor awardees.

The Idaho State Capitol Commission, in collaboration with the Idaho Military Museum and the Military Advisory Committee, sponsored the "Those Who Served" exhibit.

Left: Selected artifacts from the "Those Who Served" exhibit.



"Idaho Territory: 27 Years," a Traveling Exhibit

"When President Lincoln signed the Idaho Territorial Act, he was anxious to add more slavery-free areas to the U.S. He also recognized Idaho's rich mineral resources as a source of revenue to support the expensive war. Idaho Territory was huge, encompassing all of the present states of Idaho and Montana and most of Wyoming. Lincoln's signature opened up this vast area for miners, politicians, farmers, land speculators, and others who would lay the foundation for a new state in 1890."



This, a quotation from the opening panel of an exhibit designed to travel to schools, museums, libraries, malls, and other venues throughout the state, sets the tone for the eight-panel exhibition. The story of how national events impacted Idaho—as well as how Idaho impacted the nation—are detailed in an exhibit that examines the entire 27-year territorial era.

The colorful exhibit, done in collaboration with the Idaho Humanities Council, can be set up in minutes. It explores the history of American territories and how territorial governments function. Alongside this national story is the account of Idaho, including the congressional debate over its boundaries, the move of the capitol, treaty negotiations with Idaho tribes, and how Idaho got its name. Interspersed throughout are narratives of Idahoans who influenced territorial development.

"Idaho Territory: 27 Years" will be a fitting lasting legacy of the sesquicentennial, making its way to venues throughout the state for many years.



Ida Visits 150 Years of Idaho

"All aboard to visit Idaho," beckons Ida in the latest edition of First Lady Lori Otter's books about the fictional Ida's adventures in the Gem State. Co-authored with Karen Day, illustrated by Chris Latter, and produced in association with the Idaho State Historical Society, *Ida Visits 150 Years of Idaho* provides children with a colorful look at Idaho history.

Searching for her family story—and "why I'm named after the great state of Idaho"—Ida sets off on an adventure of historical sleuthing. From 3.5 million year old fossils to whitewater adventures on rivers once traveled by Lewis and Clark, Ida uncovers the story of her family and her state.

Illustrated with dozens of photographs from ISHS's rich historical photograph collection, *Ida Visits 150 Years of Idaho* examines Idaho tribes and missionaries, explorers and trappers, authors, athletes, and artists. Punctuated with fun facts—every Idahoan would have to eat 63 pounds of potatoes a day to consume all the potatoes grown in their state—and highlighted with vignettes of famous Idahoans, this latest Ida adventure will prove an enticing vehicle to encourage Idaho children to delve more into their roots.



Top: The ISHS territorial traveling exhibit.

Above: Teachers assemble the exhibit at an Idaho Humanities Council workshop on territorial history for educators.

Left: Viewing the exhibit at North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene.

Photo: Robert Allen

Idaho's Heritage Conference

"Meeting people from the different regions and different venues gave me a chance to learn how others handled different problems. Finding that these people are out there and willing to help was good news."

—Conference attendee evaluation comment

More than 200 people—from Dubois to Sandpoint—attended Idaho's Heritage Conference on September 25-27 at the capitol in Boise, the first multi-disciplinary heritage conference hosted in Idaho in decades. Held to commemorate 150 years of Idaho history, 98 percent of those who attended stated that they hoped Idaho would host similar conferences in the future. Idaho's Heritage Conference might become a lasting legacy of the sesquicentennial.

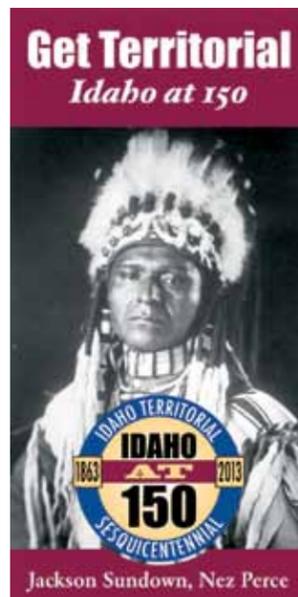
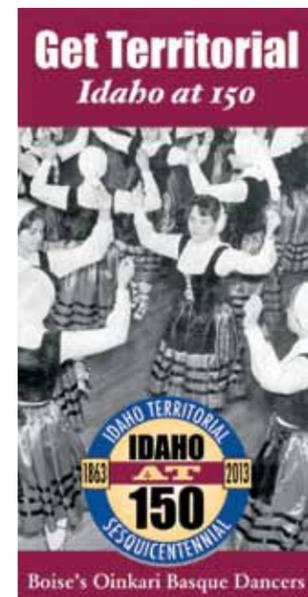
The conference was sponsored by Idaho's Heritage Partners: Idaho State Historical Society, Idaho Heritage Trust, Idaho Association of Museums, Preservation Idaho, Idaho Archaeological Society, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Although the Partners often collaborate on projects and programs, this was the first time all six have joined together in such an ambitious effort.

The conference featured experts in the fields of preservation, museums, and archaeology, and was keyed by Mamie Oliver, who has long studied the role of African Americans in Idaho, and Brent Glass, Director Emeritus of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. The conference opened with a book fair featuring two dozen Idaho authors—including First Lady Lori Otter—and ended with a plenary session of four award-winning Idaho preservation programs. In between, attendees took field trips, enjoyed the "Essential Idaho" exhibit at the State Historical Museum, dined at the Basque Block, and attended sessions ranging from "Why Main Street Matters" to "Engaging a Younger Audience."



Top: Brent Glass, Director Emeritus of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, keyed the Idaho's Heritage Conference.

Above: Conference attendees get a hands-on experience.



Two of the 22 banners ISHS developed for lamp posts surrounding the capitol.

Capitol Banners

The Idaho State Historical Society developed a series of banners featuring Idaho people and events to adorn the 22 lamp posts that border the capitol building. The colorful banners, each two feet by four feet, included images from the Historical Society's extensive historical photograph collection and highlighted individuals, businesses, organizations, and ethnic groups throughout the state.

Nez Perce warrior and champion rodeo cowboy Jackson Sundown was featured on one banner; African American Erma Madry and her Boise family band on another. Potato king J.R. Simplot, steamboating on Lake Chatcolet, swimming in Bear Lake, skiing in Sun Valley—each had a place on the banners designed to inspire Idahoans to learn more about their diverse state.

The Idaho State Capitol Commission generously supported the capitol banner project.

Lincoln's Legacy in Idaho

Idaho's commemorative year began with a moving ceremony on the capitol steps marking the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's signature creating Idaho Territory. It fittingly culminated on November 19—the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address—with the dedication of the first permanent exhibit at the Idaho State Archives, "Abraham Lincoln: His Legacy in Idaho."

The exhibit features more than 200 original artifacts and documents, most donated by David and Nancy Leroy, the product of their decades of collecting Lincoln memorabilia relating to Idaho and the Rocky Mountain West. Visitors enter a replica of Lincoln's White House Cabinet Room, featuring the reconstructed table where he signed the Emancipation Proclamation. From there,



Pro Image Photography – Robert Allen



Pro Image Photography – Robert Allen

the exhibit takes visitors on a tour of Lincoln's life, from childhood through his assassination.

What makes this exhibit unique is its grounding in Idaho. Lincoln not only signed the act creating Idaho, he also appointed more than a dozen men as territorial officers, men who laid the framework for the Idaho in which we now live. He pushed through Congress three acts that transformed Idaho: the Homestead Act, the Pacific Railway Act that encouraged transcontinental lines that connected Idaho to the rest of the nation, and the Morrill Act that led to the establishment of the University of Idaho. The Nez Perce Treaty of 1863, ensuring the Tribe a place at any future negotiating table regarding stream flows and fishery habitat, continues to impact Idahoans on a daily basis.

Abraham Lincoln as a young politician turned down the opportunity to serve as governor of Oregon Territory, at a time when Idaho was a part of Oregon. Nonetheless, his impact on Idaho was dramatic and influential, and this new exhibit is the first of its kind to highlight Lincoln's significant role in the history of Idaho.

Top: Abraham Lincoln living historian Skip Critell greets visitors at the Lincoln Legacy exhibit opening. Left: ISHS Chair Tom Blanchard with David and Nancy Leroy at the exhibit dedication; visitors view some of the 200 Lincoln-related artifacts now on permanent exhibit at the Idaho State Archives.



State Agencies Participate in Idaho's Sesquicentennial

In its 2012 session, Idaho's legislature, with the passage of SCR 132, invited all Idahoans to participate in "Idaho at 150." Many state agency websites, including the State of Idaho's official site, posted the ISHS-designed "Idaho at 150" logo on their home pages, as well as on letterhead and newsletters. In addition, ISHS collaborated with numerous state agencies to create a compelling commemoration. The Historical Society thanks the following agencies and commissions for their active participation in "Idaho at 150."

- Department of Commerce—Division of Tourism
- Commission for Libraries
- Commission on the Arts
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Education
- Forest Products Commission
- Liquor Division
- Lottery Commission
- Parks and Recreation
- Public Television

Looking Ahead...

The Idaho State Historical Society is thankful for the ongoing support of our members, donors, colleagues, and friends. We look forward to future collaborative initiatives that provide educational access to Idaho's rich history. For more information on these and other upcoming legacy projects, contact us, or visit our website at www.history.idaho.gov.



Photograph by Phillip McClain



captions when we get the architect's rendering of the new museum.

Get Territorial: Idaho at 150 Legacy Project Supporters

The Idaho State Historical Society raised more than \$750,000 in non-state funding and support for "Get Territorial: Idaho at 150" Legacy Projects. We wish to thank our friends and partners across Idaho.

Territorial Sesquicentennial Kickoff on the Capitol Steps

In-kind Sponsors and Partners:
KTVB Channel 7
Idaho Public Television
Idaho Lottery
Skip Critell, Lincoln Remembered
Idaho Civil War Volunteers
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Prolmage Photography
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Special Thanks:

Senator James Risch
Senator Mike Crapo

Essential Idaho Gem Circle Donors

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Sapphire

Idaho Governor's Lewis and Clark Trail Committee
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Amethyst

Sondra and George Juetten with Juetten Charitable Trust
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Garnet

Murray and Shirley Aarestad
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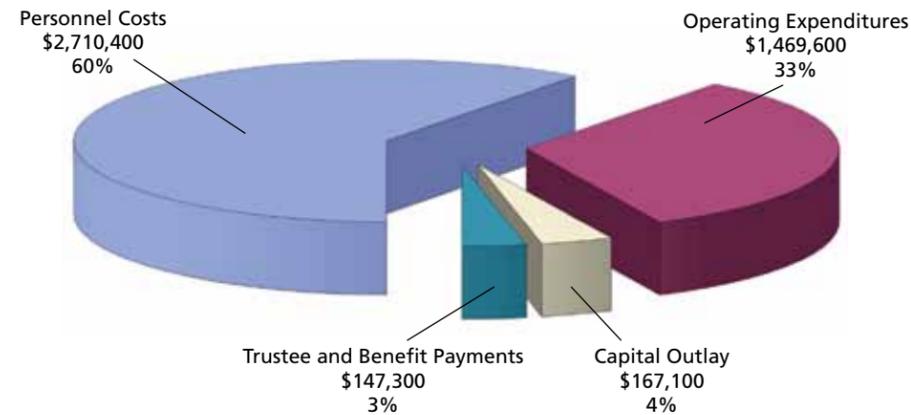
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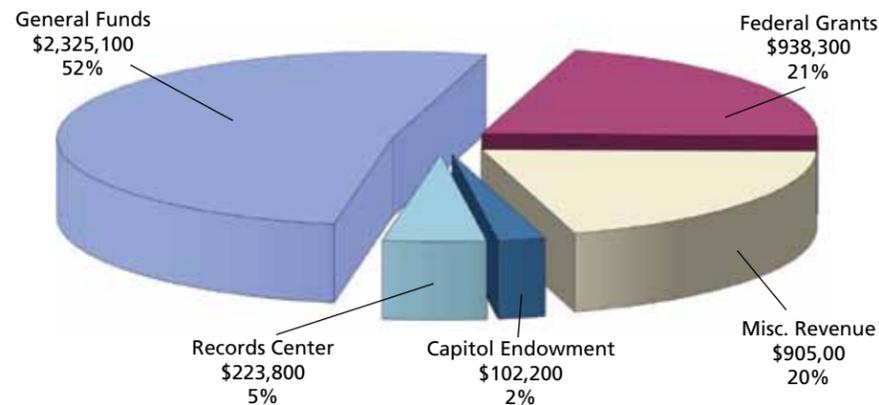
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ISHS FY 2013 Operating Budget
July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013
Expenditures by Category



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Expenditures by Sources of Revenue



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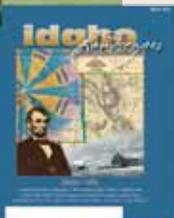
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